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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/781,610	02/18/2004	Emmanuel Sedda	GRY-119US	2675
23122	7590	06/13/2005	EXAMINER	
RATNERPRESTIA P O BOX 980 VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482-0980			FRISTOE JR, JOHN K	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3751	

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/781,610

Applicant(s)

SEDDA ET AL.

Examiner

John K. Fristoe Jr.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 6-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 February 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/25/04.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The information disclosure statement filed 6/25/2004 is acknowledged by the examiner.

Drawings

2. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 2, and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,188,336 (Graner et al.). Graner et al. disclose an electromechanical valve control actuator comprising an electromagnet (17), a magnet (1) located on the surface of the electromagnet (17), a mobile magnetic plate (2), an E shaped circuit (both side of element 18 and element 5 in figure 2), wherein the magnet is located at the branch (in the middle of elements 18 in figure 2) of the E-

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shaped circuit, a rod (the bottom portion of element 2 in figure 2), and the electromechanical actuator is used in an internal combustion engine (col. 1, lines 61-64).

5. Claims 1, 6, and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,161,779 (Graner et al.). Graner et al. disclose an electromechanical valve control actuator comprising an electromagnet (20), a magnet (21) located on the surface of the electromagnet (20), a mobile magnetic plate (28), an E shaped circuit (24), wherein the magnet is located at the branch (located on either side of the middle branch in figure 2) of the E-shaped circuit (24), wherein the cross section of the end branch of the support is smaller than half of the cross section of central branch of the circuit (figure 2), and wherein a cross section of a junction between an end branch of the E-shaped circuit (24) and the central branch of the E-shaped circuit is smaller than half the cross section of the central branch of the circuit (figure 2).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 5,161,779 (Graner et al.) in view of U.S. Pat. No. 4,883,025 (Richeson, Jr.). Graner et al. disclose an electromechanical valve control actuator comprising an electromagnet (20), a magnet (21) located on the surface of the electromagnet (20), a mobile magnetic plate (28), an E shaped circuit (24), wherein the magnet is located at the branch (located on either side of the middle branch in figure 2) of the E-shaped circuit (24), and plate (28) is capable of connected to a valve

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rod (col. 4, lines 51-54) but lacks a rod connected to the plate and the valve being in an internal combustion engine. Richenson, Jr. teaches an electromechanical valve comprising an electromagnet (3), a magnet (5), a moveable plate (2), a valve rod (27) connected to the plate, and the valve is used in an internal combustion engine (col. 3, lines 39-42). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the electromechanical valve of Garner et al. by attaching a valve rod as taught by Richeson, Jr. in order to impart the armature movement to a valve member.

Allowable Subject Matter

8. Claims 3-5 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Pat. No. 4,574,841 (Hugler) discloses an electromagnet with an E-shaped circuit.

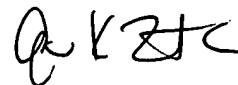
U.S. Pat. No. 4,664,150 (Steiger) discloses an electromagnet with a permanent magnet.

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John K. Fristoe Jr. whose telephone number is (571) 272-4926. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7: 00 a.m-4: 30 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine R. Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



John K. Fristoe Jr.
Examiner
Art Unit 3751

JKF



EDWARD K. LOOK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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6/10/05